[METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INFERRING TORQUE OUTPUT OF A VARIABLE COMPRESSION RATIO ENGINE]

Abstract of Disclosure

A method for operating a variable compression ratio internal combustion engine includes the steps of determining a compression ratio operating state of the engine, and inferring a torque output for the engine based at least in part on the compression ratio operating state of the engine. For example, brake engine torque can be computed by first determining a compression ratio operating state, rotational speed and air flow of the engine, and selecting predetermined baseline indicated torque and baseline engine friction loss values based on the engine speed, the air flow and compression ratio operating state. The baseline indicated torque and baseline engine friction loss values are then used to estimate the brake engine torque.